

Wyoming Office of the Attorney General Division of Victim Services

Governor
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WYOMING CRIME VICTIMS RIGHTS WEEK PROCLAMATION APRIL 10th -16th, 2005

Whereas, President Ronald W. Reagan first declared "National Crime Victims' Rights Week" in 1981 to focus our Nation's attention on the plight of crime victims; and

Whereas, this Silver Anniversary of National Crime Victims' Rights Week provides a national opportunity to reflect on the devastating impact of crime and terrorism on victims and our entire Nation, and to strengthen our national resolve to ensure that victims' needs are identified and addressed; and

Whereas, since 1981, the crime victim assistance field has expanded from a handful of assistance programs to include over 10,000 community- and justice system-based programs, and in 2005, there are more than 32,000 federal and state statutes that define and protect victims' rights; and

Whereas, America as a Nation, and we as individuals and communities, recognize that justice isn't served until crime victims are, that crime and violence in America affects us all, and that victims' rights are a critical component of "justice for all;" and

Whereas, justice isn't served until all crime victims and those hurt by crime - our mothers and fathers, sons and daughters, sisters and brothers, neighbors and friends - are provided support and assistance in the aftermath of victimization; and

Whereas, despite impressive accomplishments over the past 25 years in crime victims' rights and services, there remain many challenges to ensure that all crime victims and survivors are treated with dignity and respect, recognized as key participants within our systems of justice, and afforded services that provide help and hope to them; and

Whereas, America as a Nation recognizes that we serve justice by serving victims of crime and that by helping victims and survivors of crime, we help make our homes and neighborhoods, communities and

Nation stronger, safer and more secure; and

Whereas, America has joined together annually for the past 25 years to recognize the needs and rights of crime victims and survivors during National Crime Victims' Rights Week each April; therefore, be it

Resolved, that I, Dave Freudenthal, Governor of the State of Wyoming do hereby proclaims the week of April 10th to 16th, 2005 to be Crime Victims' Week, and honors crime victims and those who serve them during this week and throughout the year; and be it further

"Crime Victims Rights Week"

And I urge all citizens of Wyoming to contact the Wyoming Crime Victim Coalition at 1-800-990-3877 or the Division of Victim Services at 307-777-7200 to find out how to work within your community to help eliminate crime in our state.

Dave Freudenthal, Governor